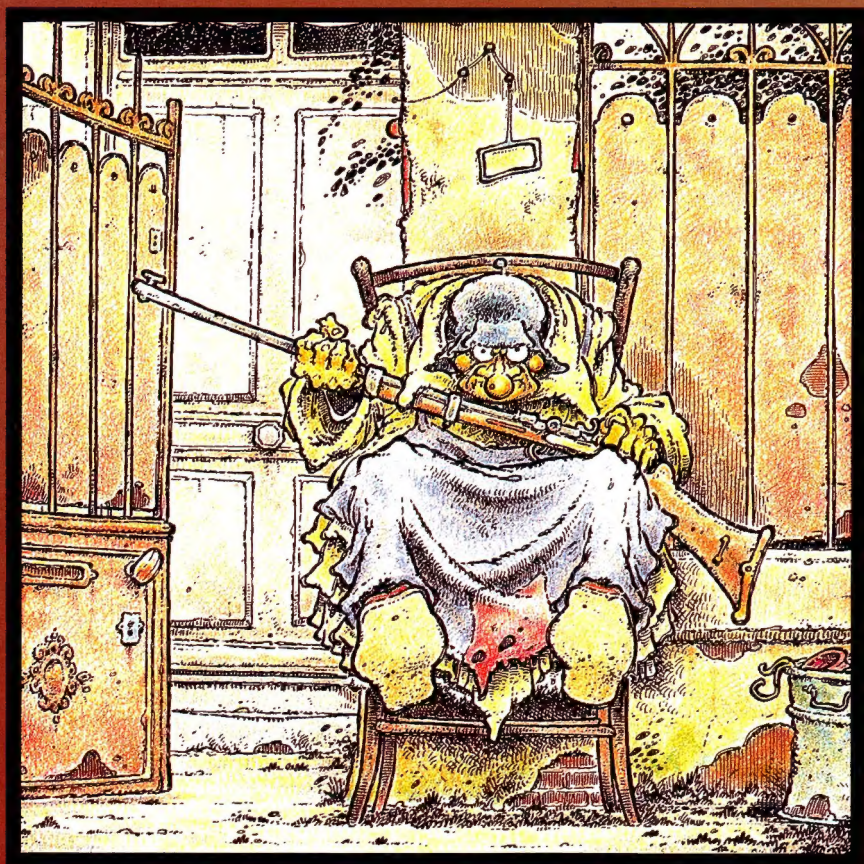
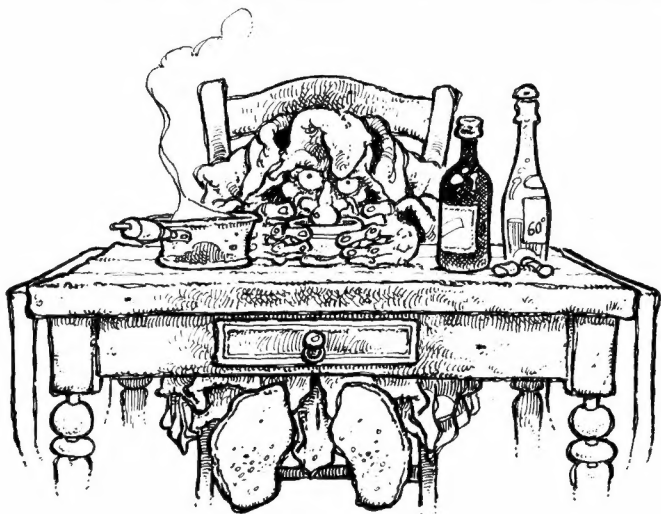


FRENCH ICE

FEATURING CARMEN CRU

Sophisticated Humor For Those With Icy-Cool Taste!





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JULY 1987

NO. 5

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FRENCH ICE

FEATURING CARMEN GRU

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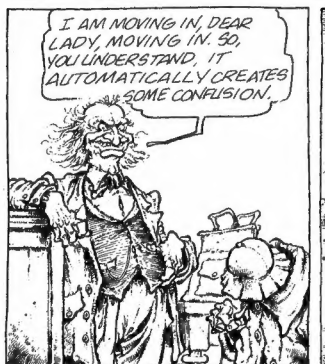
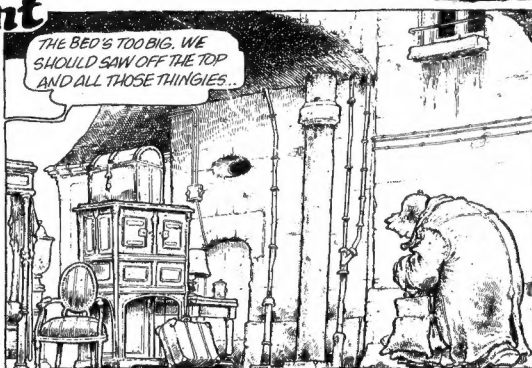
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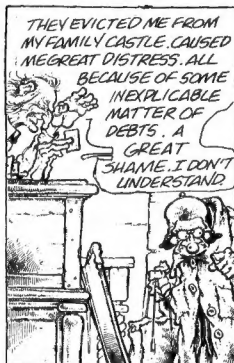
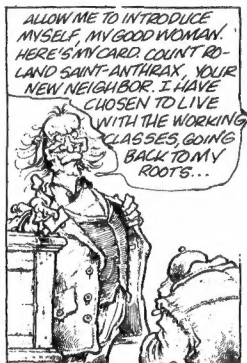
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CARMEN CRU. The New Tenant







THE BIG KNIVES AND OTHER SHARP THINGS, THEY GO IN THE KITCHEN?

MY FAMILY ARMS? GOOD LORD, NO, MAN! HANG THEM ON THE WALL IN THE DINING ROOM.



THE WALLS ARE ALREADY COVERED WITH PAINTINGS. WE'LL HAVE TO GET RID OF SOME THEN.

YOU MUST BE JOKING. THAT IS MY GALLERY OF ANCESTORS, GOING BACK TO THE 16TH CENTURY!



THERE'S TOO MANY OF 'EM, COUNT. YOU'LL HAVE TO LEAVE SOME IN THE CELLAR. IT'S NO CASTLE, HERE, JUST A TWO BEDROOM, 700 SQUARE FEET MAX.

I KNOW, I KNOW. THE SHERIFF JUST REFUSED TO LISTEN.



WHAT'S ALL THE JUNK IN THE YARD, IN FRONT OF MY HOUSE?

JUNK? YARD? HOUSE?



IT'S FULL OF TABLES, CRATES AND DRESSERS. IT LOOKS LIKE A GARAGE SALE.

DEAR MRS. GROO, IT'S ONLY A FEW THINGS THAT I HAVE TEMPORARILY STORED THERE. MY NEW APARTMENT IS SO TINY.



YOU'VE GOT TO GET RID OF ALL THAT RUBBISH. MY YARD'S NOT A DUMP.

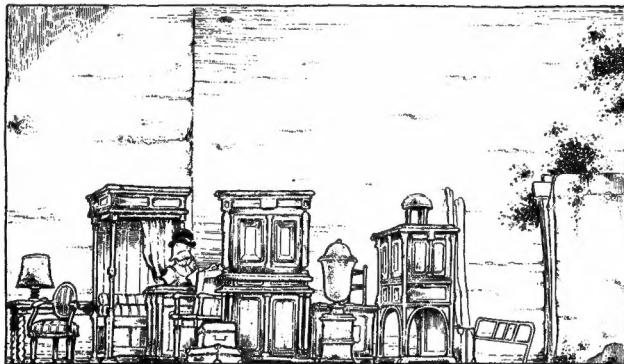
RUBBISH? THESE PRICELESS ANTIQUES? DON'T WORRY, AS SOON AS I FIND A GOOD BUYER...

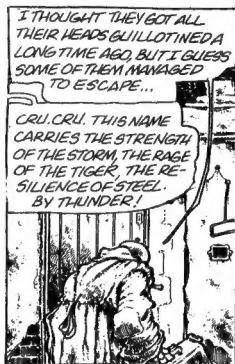
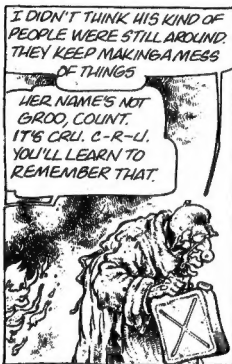


YOU'D BETTER HURRY UP. I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO LOOK AT THEM FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.

I SHALL, MRS. GROO, I SHALL. WHEN I THINK THAT, NOW, I HAVE TO PAY RENT, AND SELL ALL MY PRECIOUS BELONGINGS...



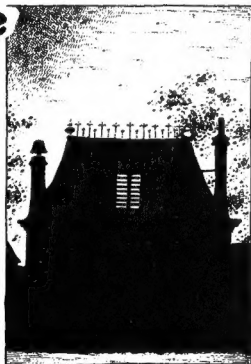
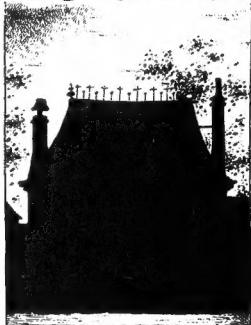


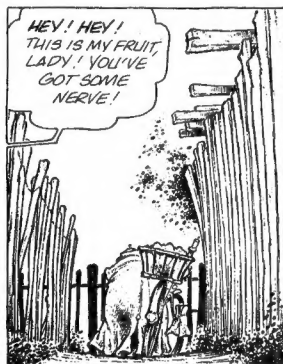
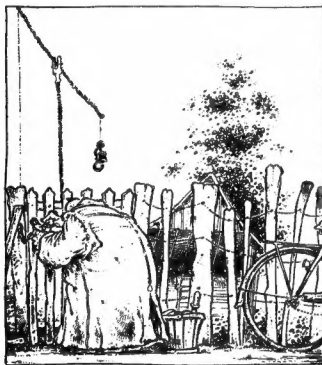
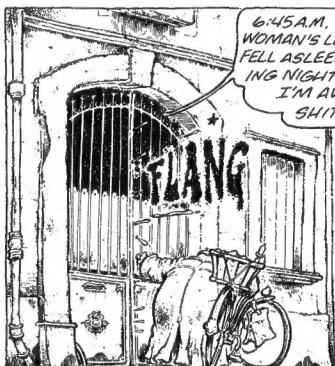


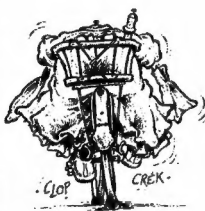
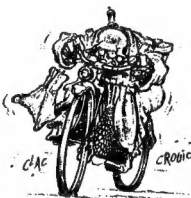
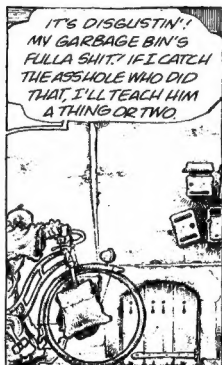
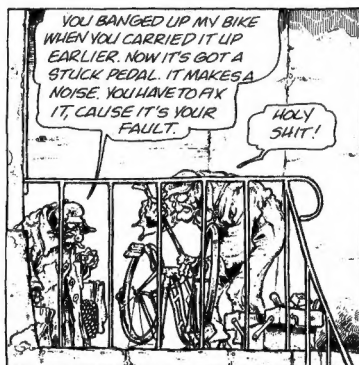


CARMEN CRU

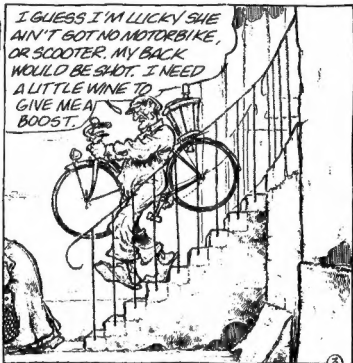
The Routine

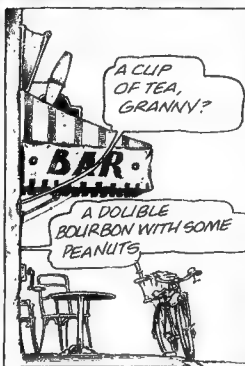
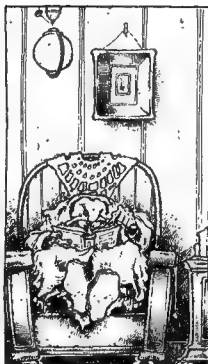






...OF COURSE I GAVE HER THE MONEY BACK.

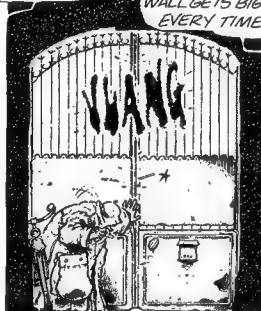


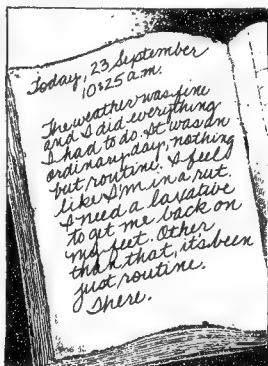
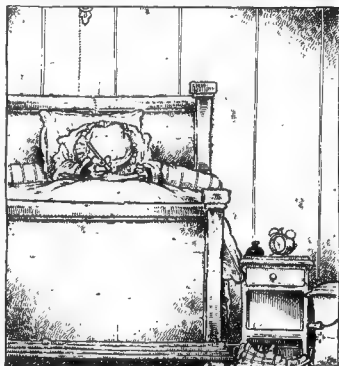
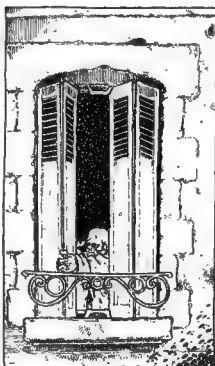
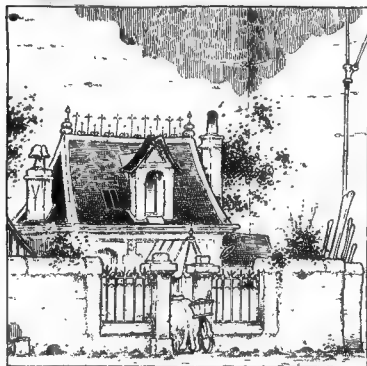


WATCH OUT! THE CLOCK'S GONNA FALL!

DID YOU SEE THAT? THE CRACK IN THE WALL GETS BIGGER EVERY TIME!

I WONDER WHAT ASSHOLE INVENTED STAIRS...

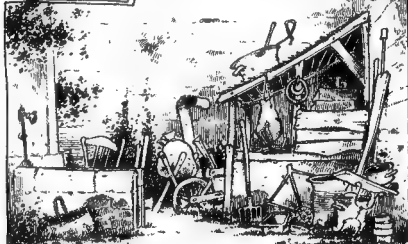






CARMEN CRUI. The Interview

ANYONE
HOME?



THE FRONT DOOR'S
LOCKED. MAYBE SHE'S
OUT BACK. HEY,
CARMENCRUI?

WHAT A
MESS!
IT'S WORSE
THAN A DUMP...



MAYBE SHE'S IN THE
CELLAR. IT'S OPEN. YO,
CARMENCRUI! WE'RE HERE
TO SEE YOU.

WHAT A
MESS. WHAT A PIGSTY!
LOOK AT ALL THAT
JUNK.



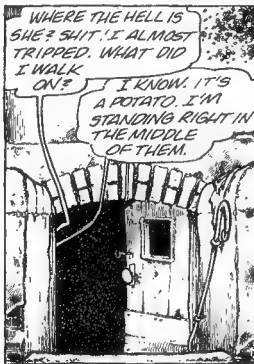
IT'S PITCH BLACK
IN HERE. I CAN'T
SEE A THING. YO,
CARMEN! WE'RE
HERE FOR THE
INTERVIEW...

DOWNWARD
INTO THE
EARTH...
INTO THE
BELLY OF THE
BEAST... LET
ME HOLD YOUR
HAND.

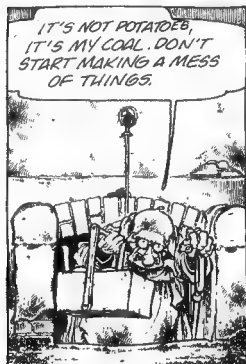


WHERE THE HELL IS
SHE? SHIT! I ALMOST
TRIPPED. WHAT DID
I WALK
ON?

I KNOW. IT'S
A POTATO. I'M
STANDING RIGHT IN
THE MIDDLE
OF THEM.



IT'S NOT POTATOES,
IT'S MY COAL. DON'T
START MAKING A MESS
OF THINGS.



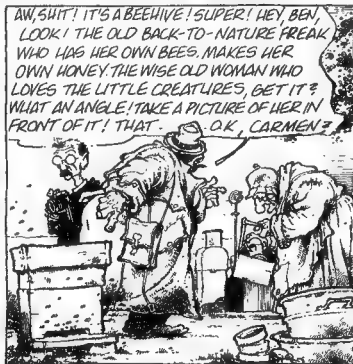
AH, CARMEN, WE FOUND YOU! WE'RE
HERE TO INTERVIEW YOU FOR THE "DAILY
HERALD." YOU KNOW, THE PAPER...

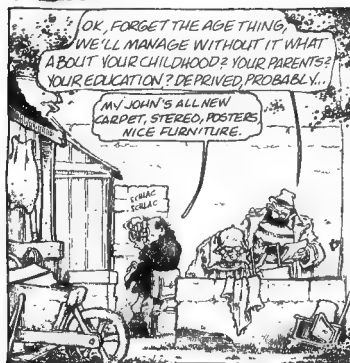
HEY,
LOOK AT MY PANTS!
THEY'RE RUINED.
YOU THINK THE
PAPER WILL PAY
FOR A NEW
PAIR?

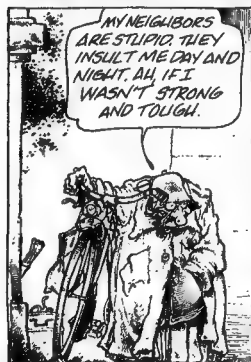
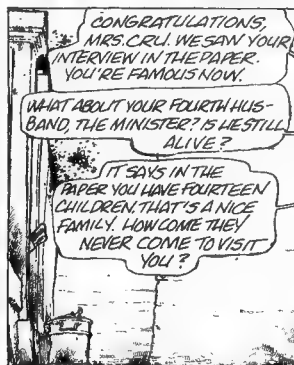
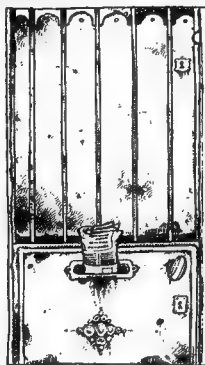


OKAY, LET ME EXPLAIN, CARMEN.
IT'S OLD FOLKS WEEK, SO WE'RE
DOING A SPECIAL. WE PICKED
YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE THE
OLDEST AND THE MOST
COLORFUL, TOO, GET IT?



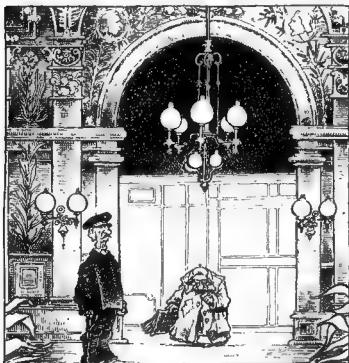
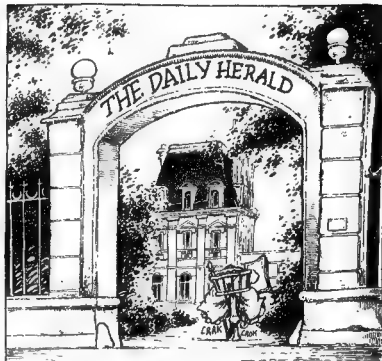
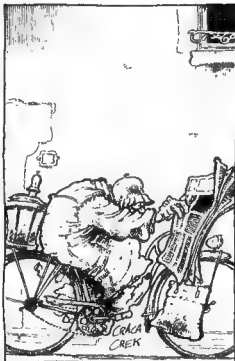








IT'LL BE YOUR 107TH BIRTHDAY SOON,
MRS. CRU WE'LL HAVE
TO HAVE A PARTY!



I FOUND THIS IN MY MAILBOX. I DON'T NEED IT. I DIDN'T ASK FOR IT. I'M RETURNING IT. IT'S YOURS.



ON TOP OF THAT,
IT'S HARD TO READ, IT'S
FULL OF MISTAKES AND MIS-
SPELLINGS. WHEN YOU WANT
TO WRITE ABOUT SOMEONE,
YOU SHOULD HAVE THE DE-
CENCY TO
CHECK YOUR
FACTS FIRST.



I HAVEN'T READ A PAPER
SINCE THE WAR*AND I
HAVEN'T MISSED ANY-
THING. AND I WASN'T
BORN YESTERDAY
EITHER. YOU KNOW...



YOU'LL HAVE
TO GET YOUR
SUBSCRIPTIONS
SOME OTHER
WAY.



**CARMENE LAGI:
A BIG-HEARTED
WOMAN**

CANAL STREET.

who would be
that in the heart
our peaceful town,
there still lives an
yet dynamic lady by
the name of Karla
Cruz. This morning
and after a warm
who is still very much
young at heart,
welcomed us to his
home, which
was touchingly
decorated with
decorations and

CINEMAS

Rialto: "Bloodsuck
from" 4:30

DINOSAURS FOR SALE will be displayed



CARMEN
CRU

The Petition

SIGN WHERE MY
FINGER IS. THERE.
OK, NOW WE GOT
ALL OF THEM.

LET'S SEE:
THE TINSELSCHMIDT'S
SIGNED, AND SO DID OLD CRAP-
PER, AND ME, AND YOU, MR.
RAOUL. THE COUNT DIDN'T SIGN,
BUT THAT'S BECAUSE HE'S AT
THE CASINO. I'LL SIGN FOR HIM.
WON'T MATTER.

THAT MAKES FIVE.
YEP, IT'S THE
RIGHT NUMBER.

HEY, NO,
IT'S NOT. THERE ARE
SIX FAMILIES LIVING HERE.
SOMEONE'S MISSING. WHO'D
WE FORGET?

YOU STUPID OR
WHAT? IT'S THE
OL' COW. SHE CAN'T
SIGN A PETITION
AGAINST HER. YOU
IDIOT!

OK. NOW SOMEONE'S
GOT TO DELIVER THE
PETITION AND SHOVE
IT RIGHT UNDER HER
NOSE. SHE'S GOT TO
UNDERSTAND ONCE
AND FOR ALL. WHO'S
GOING TO DO IT?

T HAS TO BE SOME-
ONE WITH AUTHORITY,
COURAGE AND CONVIC-
TION. NOT A COWARD.

YOU IDIOT!
HOW MANY TIMES
DO I HAVE TO
TELL YA?

WHO'S
GOING TO
VOLUNTEER?

IT'S RISKY BUT IT'S A
GOOD IDEA. HOW MANY ARE WE?

FOUR. FOUR MEN.

FOUR MACHO MEN A-
GAINST AN OL' NASTY WO-
MAN. WELL, THAT'LL SHOW
HER.

WE'LL TEACH HER A
LESSON, SHIT!

WHO GOES FIRST?
I'M HOLDING THE
PETITION. THAT'S A BIG
RESPONSIBILITY.
YOU, MR. RAOUL?

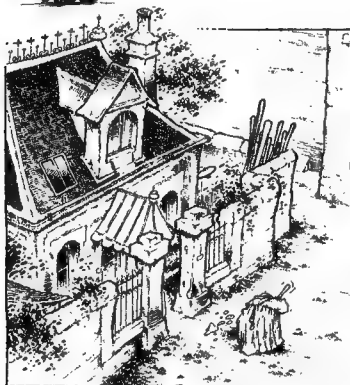
YEAH,
WAIT A MINNIT
LENNIE FINISH
OFF MY
GLASS.

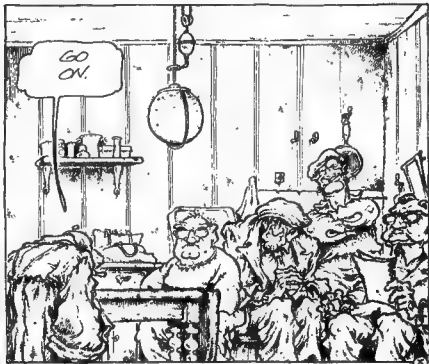
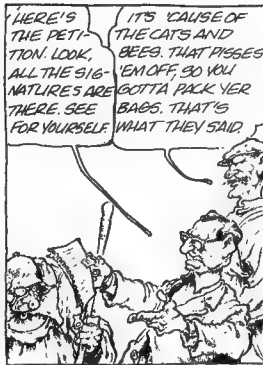
YOU IDIOT.

OKAY,
LET'S GO MEN!
LET'S
GO!

O.K. WE'LL
DRAW STRAWS.

WHAT WE SHOULD
DO IS ALL GO TOGETHER
CRUSH HER UNDER
THE WEIGHT OF OUR
NUMBERS. SHE'D SEE
WHO'S STRONGER.







OK. ITEM NO. 1:
YOUR CATS ROAM FREELY ALL OVER
THE PLACE. THEY MAKE A MESS EVERY-
WHERE, INCLUDING ON MY DOORMAT,
AND THEY'RE NOT EVEN FIXED---
THINK ABOUT THAT---SO WHEN
THEY'RE IN HEAT, THEY...



THEY'RE NOT MY
CATS. THEY DON'T BE-
LONG TO ANYONE.
THEY DO WHAT THEY
WANT; COME IN, GO
OUT. IT'S THEIR
BUSINESS. I DON'T
HAVE ANY CATS.



THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY, BUT OK.
ITEM NO. 2: THE BEES. YOU'VE
GOT A HIVE IN YOUR GARDEN. IN THE
SUMMER, THEY'RE ALL OVER THE
PLACE. I GOT STUNG THREE TIMES.



INCLUDING ONCE ON HIS TESTIC...
CEB IT?... HIS BALLS. THEY
SWELLED LIKE CUCUMBERS. HE
COULDN'T PUT ON HIS PANTS.
HAR, HAR, THAT SURE WAS
FLUNNY!



BEES ARE TOO BUSY TO
BOTHER PEOPLE. THEY
ONLY STING THE ASSHOLES
WHO ARE AFRAID OF THEM.
AND TO BE AFRAID OF BEES,
YOU'VE GOT TO BE A REAL
SCHMUCK. WHAT YOU'RE
SAYING IS STUPID.



EASY FOR YOU TO
SAY. YOU WEREN'T THE
BUTT OF THE ENTIRE BLOCK'S
JOKES. ITEM NO. 4...



NO,
NO. 3.

YES. NO. 3:
YOUR CHARACTER AND BEHAVIOR.
YOU'RE... SHALL WE SAY, AHEN, A
LITTLE, ER, CRAZY. YES, THAT'S
THE WORD: CRAZY. YOU'RE
CRAZY.



CRAZY?
WHAT'S THAT
ABOUT CRAZY?

CRAZY.



IN SHORT, YOU'RE NOISY.
YOU'RE DISTURBING EVERYONE. YOU
SHOW NO CONSIDERATION FOR
YOUR NEIGHBORS. YOU'RE MAKING
A SHAMBLES OF THIS PLACE* IT'S
BECOMING UN-EN-DU-RU-BLE!



DURA.
UN-EN-
DURABLE.

* READ ISSUES NOS. 1 TO 6 OF "FRENCH ICE" TO GET A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THESE COMPLAINTS.



SO, THAT'S
OUR
COMPLAINTS,
RIGHT?



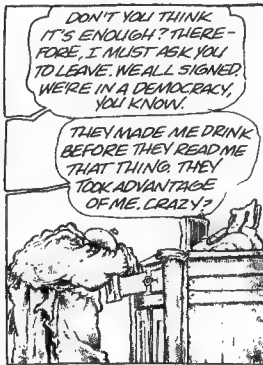
THE CATS AND THE BEES, I DON'T
CARE. ANIMALS DON'T BOTHER ME NONE.
I SEE A WHOLE LOT OF 'EM ALREADY
WHEN I'M DRUNK. I'M USED TO IT.
BUT THE THING ABOUT BEIN' CRAZY,
NOBODY TOL' ME 'BOUT THAT WHEN
THE WIFE SIGNED.



AHEM, WELL,
THEREFORE, I
MUST...

Y'ALL TAKE
ME FOR A FOOL,
JEST 'CAUSE
I'M AN ALCO-
HOLIC.

THAT'S
ALL?



DON'T YOU THINK
IT'S ENOUGH? THERE-
FORE, I MUST ASK YOU
TO LEAVE. WE ALL SIGNED.
WE'RE IN A DEMOCRACY,
YOU KNOW.

THEY MADE ME DRINK
BEFORE THEY READ ME
THAT THING. THEY
TOOK ADVANTAGE
OF ME. CRAZY?



IT HURTS ME MORE
THAN YOU, BELIEVE ME, BUT
THERE ARE CERTAIN LIMITS
BEYOND WHICH... BEYOND
WHICH... YES, LIMITS
WHICH CAN'T BE... CAN'T
BE...

I'M THIRSTY.
IS THERE ANY-
THIN' TA DRINK?



ON TOP OF THAT, I DON'T
UNDERSTAND HOW YOU CAN
LIVE IN THIS INSALUBRIOUS
RUIN...

YEAH, IT'S
FILTHY HERE. YOU
SHOULD BE ASHAMED.

THIS'S BORIN',
SHIT!



READ THAT.
IT'S LIKE YOUR SCRAP
OF PAPER. IT'S WORTH
THE SAME.

SMELLS
LIKE HOT
WINE.

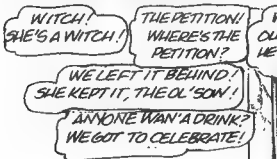
Petition

I, the undersigned, Carmen Orr, residing
at 1251 Canal Street, Near, hereby affirm
that I live in the constant and
degrading company of a bunch of
loonies who can't stand nature's
creations, such as little animals and
old people.

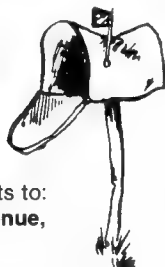
I therefore and hereby ask for the
prompt and immediate eviction of
all these loathsome individuals who
are poisoning the last few years
have to live.

Done on this day, for value as such
and to whatever it shall concern.

The petitioner, Carmen Orr
P.S. Copies to be sent to the
District Attorney, the
Governor, and even
higher, if possible.



CARMEN'S MAILBOX



Letters, we get letters. Please address your comments to:
**Randy & Jean-Marc Lofficier, 6539 Jamieson Avenue,
Reseda, Ca 91335.**

Dear Deni & Jean-Marc,

Thank you for the ten copies of **French Ice** that you were kind enough to send me. Thank you also for publishing and promoting "Carmen Cru" in the United States. It is quite a risk that you have taken, but then, isn't America the land of risk-taking and opportunity? I want to congratulate you for the quality of the publication and of the translation. It has given me a whole new look at "Carmen." I am eager to learn about the reaction of the American public to our quintessentially French comics heroine.

--Jean-Marc Lelong
(Creator of "Carmen Cru")

Dear Randy & Jean-Marc:

I damn near busted a gut reading "Carmen Cru." It's **hilarious**! The story about Carmen and her nephew, the mooch, (the one in which she persuades him to open the box in the backyard so she can get her money out --neglecting to mention it's a beehive) almost had me on the floor. God, I wish we could get stuff like this on Saturday mornings!

It's so refreshing to see a comic-book with a character who (a) doesn't wear tights, (b) wouldn't even look good in tights, and (c) cares for truth, justice and the American...er, French way only insofar as it applies to her.

Carmen is a nasty old lady. Reminds me of some relatives I have. For that reason alone, it's the best horror comic of 1987. But, seriously, **French Ice** is one of the funniest funny books I've ever read. And hooray for Carmen, pugnacious old curmudgeon that she is. It's refreshing to see a character with as much spunk and humanity as her.

--Buzz Dixon

Dear R.J.M. Lofficier & Company (sounds quite impressive, eh?!):

Just fished out **French Ice** No. 3 from a stack of mail after being on the road for 5 weeks. As always, it's one fine book. This guy Lelong not only draws like a demon -- he also has a great way with the story. Are the book's just as witty in French or is it where you two come in?

Anyway, I just thought I'd drop a line and let you know you got a fan out here in Long Beach land.

--Phil Yeh

Dear Jean-Marc & Randy:

I must admit I fell half in love with "Carmen Cru." Perhaps I've been living in a closet, since I'd never read about this particular bag lady before, but I am certainly glad to have finally been introduced.

--Casey Fuetsch

Dear Jean-Marc,

I like "Carmen Cru" because it supports a trend I'm glad to find developing in comics: stories are decreasingly about so-and-so's extra-powers, and increasingly about people using only our ordinary powers as human beings. Even the super-powered focus is now on the person with the power, at least in part.

Ever more, comics are focusing on real people. **Journey's** Wolverine MacAllistaire, **Love & Rockets'** population of Palomar, **Wordsmith**, etc.

And I'm glad about Carmen, too. She's really not too bad. She's right most of the time. She just has this horrible voice!

--Matthew-Louis M. Levin

Cöming Next In...

FRENCH ICE

FEATURING CARMEN CRU

#6

If you're the kind of person who brakes for mutant old ladies (and let's face it, who doesn't?) **French Ice** No. 6 is the mag for you. Boy, do we have a treat!

THREE A. M.
p. 2 - panel 5

If you want to know how Carmen spends her nights, the answer is forthcoming in **THREE A. M.**, a story in which comicdom's grouchiest granny battles a horde of cats that decide to take over her house.



15 BELOW ZERO
p. 3 - panel 9

But it is Carmen who has the last word in **15 Below Zero**, where, with icy calm, she brings swift retribution to her enemies.

THE POULTRY
p. 2 - panel 9

Even though it is hard to top two such tales, the adventure continues as a foul fowl moves in with Carmen in **The Poultry**.

INSOMNIA
p. 3 - panel 4 (fiance)

At last — Carmen's Origins! Better than radioactive spiders, better than spaceships with babies on board leaving doomed planets, better than cosmic rays, better than having parents murdered by thieves!

Insomnia reveals more than you could possibly want to know about Carmen's early life. But, since you asked, now's the chance to meet Carmen's mother and husband, as well as find out the *real* origin of her umbrella!



THE 3-D ZONE
Presents

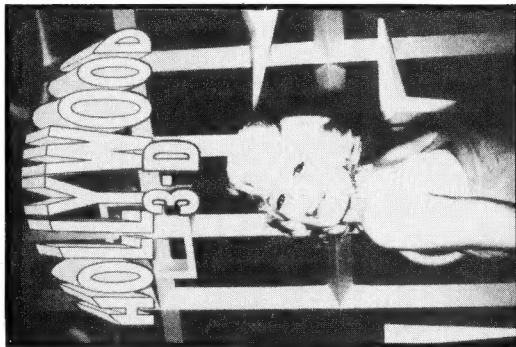
HOLLYWOOD 3-D

The 3-D Zone Number Seven

Remember those movie-style comics of the early fifties with movie stars on the covers? Get ready! Ray Zone has brought them back in Zonevision. The 3-D Zone Number Seven is an amazing tribute to the classic comic book style of the 1950s and Hollywood legends with a 3-D twist. **MANIFESTED** on the cover in both 3-D and color! Inside is a 3-D visit with Janine at her home. See her heart-shaped bathroom in 3-D! These fabulous 3-D photo comics are a must-have for all comic book collectors. Stars include ZSA ZSA GABOR, JANE RUSSELL, MAUREEN O'HARA, YVONNE DECARLO plus Harold Lloyd, Jack Lemmon, Bob Cummings, Danny Kaye and Art Linkletter. See them all in full-size 3-D!

Plus a great comic book story of Hollywood by Joe Kubert titled "Love Came Second" is included in this deluxe package. Another feature length comic classic titled "Jealousy's torment" rounds out this great book. Ever booty is going to want this one!

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AUGUST

WORDSMITH CELEBRATION!

This is the tenth issue of the critically acclaimed *Renegade* title *Wordsmith*. With its eclectic appeal, we at *Renegade* are determined to bring you the variety that we are known for and the quality that we strive for. *Wordsmith*, with its quiet appeal, has a special place in many hearts, as witnessed by the fact that when *Wordsmith* gains a fan, that person is a fan for life! A toast to *Wordsmith*. May it continue for a long time.

And now, a word about the *Wordsmith* creators:

DAVID DARRIGO was born in Toronto, Ontario in the mid-1950s. He has worked for the *Dragon Lady* comic shop as manager for five years and at present, he works for *Dragon Lady Press*.

From 1967 to 1970, Darrigo was a self-published comic book and has written a couple of articles for trade journals.

Darrigo was featured in the November issue of *Winer's Digest*, a magazine for writers and Comics Interview #40.



Wordsmith is a collection of three passions of mine: comic books, pulp magazines, and the Second World War." Darrigo told *Winer's Digest*. "*Wordsmith* was developed from my idea for a novel about a pulp magazine writer who writes outrageous fantasies that have little connection to the grim Depression-era realities outside his window."

Dave Darrigo is currently developing an adventure series for *Renegade Press* entitled *Tony Braxado*.

Robert G. Taylor was born in Fergus, Ontario in 1950. He was a few days late and claims that he'd wanted to finish a mural on the wall of his mother's womb!

After this auspicious entrance, he spent his childhood years tuning up his dad's "Daily Telegram" in order to save Leonard Star's "On Stage," Overguard & Saunders' "Steve Roper," and Stan Drake's "Juliet Jones." Hundreds of childhood hours were spent in front of the telly drawing "Jonny Quasi" and "The Man From U.N.C.L.E." The experience served to hone his drawing speed and visual memory.

Taylor taught elementary school at 19, then reined two years later to pursue a painting career. He attended Humber College and later completed a fine arts degree at York University. He has since returned to teaching art and draws *Wordsmith* at night and on school breaks.

Three years ago, Taylor began translating his classroom experiences into a humorous strip entitled "The Blackboard Jumble," which appears in various teacher publications. He also serves as the staff artist and cartoonist for the *Wentworth* Federation newspaper. In his spare time, he continues to pursue comic book and pulp magazine landscapes and portraits.

Taylor enjoys a wide range of art from Alex Toth and Al Williamson to David Mazzucchelli to Bill Sienkiewicz.

Taylor and his wife Krista happily reside in Mississauga, living under the domination of their four-pound Yorkshire terrier Benji.

wordsmith •

Written by David Dango

Art by R.G. Taylor

The Wordsmith's poet friend, Mosses, is determined to go to Spain to fight in the civil war. Clay is equally determined to stop him. But first he must find him!



GENE DAY'S BLACK ZEPPELIN #6

This is a re-solicitation. The contents of this issue are: "Who Shall Cry for Damocles" (Third and final part)

Script: Mark Shanbhum
Art: Gabriel Morrisette & David Day

"Dark Lords"

Story & Art: Gene Day

Script: Doug Moench

Finishes: Joe Eslavas

"Flight"

Story & Art: Joe Eslavas & Gene Day

The cover is by Gene Day.



THE 3-D ZONE Presents HOLLYWOOD in 3-D

Spent time with Jayne Mansfield at home, at work, and at play. See Jayne's heart-shaped tub-plus photographs of Zsa Zsa Gabor, Jane Russell, Harold Lloyd, Jack Lemmon and many, many more—all in 3-D! There will also be two classic Hollywood romance stories in 3-D, one by Joe Kubert.

SHADOWS FROM THE GRAVE #2

Written by Kevin McConnell

Pencilled by David Day

Inked by Dan Day

This is a re-solicitation: From 1849 Baltimore to 1932 Salem, we bring you two tales of undying evil and unadulterated terror.

Thirty-two pages of horror in the tradition of EC and Warren. This is the second issue of a two-issue limited series.



THE SILENT INVASION #9

Written by Larry Hancock

Art by Michael Cherkas

In the conclusion to "Paradise Lost"...

Jeffery Shurp's horrible secret lies buried on the famer farm--and Matt Shinkage is determined to expose the bitter truth behind the Srian Utopian Foundation, despite the protests of the entire town of Rockhaven!

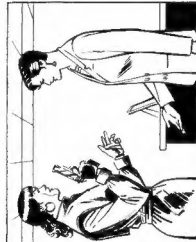
MS. TREE #42

By Max Collins, Terry Beatty and Gary Kato
"Coming of Rage" continues as a Romeo and Juliet love affair heats up into passion and danger.

Will Ms. Tree and arch-enemy Dominique Muerta join forces, or scratch each other's eyes out? Stay tuned to Ms. Tree for the best in crime adventure stories with another new Mike Mast story and a classic Johnny Dynamite tale.



Edited by R.J.M. Loeffler
More battles with the neighbors--this time, Carmen must contend with "The Petition". We also take a trip through Carmen's photo album when she has "Insomnia". Be there for "The Accident" and when it becomes "15 Below Zero".



CASES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES #9

Story by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Amidst the peaceful English countryside, there stands a house of shame. Can the great Sherlock Holmes save Miss Violet Hunter from the horror that lurks within...The Adventure of the Copper Beeches?

Life on the Michigan frontier was filled with Adventure, Fear, Battle, Murder, and Death...



...and then there were the Bad Days.

JOURNEY

**The Adventures of Wolverine MacAlistaire
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☐ Please send me the most recent issue of *Journey: Wanderers* #1. I've enclosed \$2.00 (\$2.25 outside U.S. and Canada).

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